

Response to Amendment

1. The reply filed on February 5, 2009 is not fully responsive to the prior Office Action because of the following omission(s) or matter(s): applicant's traversal of the election/restriction made previously by the examiner is self-contradictory and thus not clearly set forth for the record. In particular, applicant first notes in the aforementioned reply that "The Examiner indicated that the inventions are distinct. On the contrary, the methods of Invention II are necessarily used by the methods of Inventions I, III, IV, and V." Later, the applicant's reply states "Thus, Inventions I, II, III, IV and V do ***not*** (emphasis added) relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 by sharing the same or corresponding special technical features." The later statement contradicts the first statement. See 37 CFR 1.111. Since the above-mentioned reply appears to be *bona fide*, applicant is given **ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS** from the mailing date of this notice, whichever is longer, within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ljiljana (Lil) V. Ciric whose telephone number is 571-272-4909. The examiner works a flexible schedule, but can normally be reached weekdays between 10:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Cheryl J. Tyler can be reached on 571-272-4834. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair->

Art Unit: 3744

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/Ljiljana (Lil) V. Ciric/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3744